

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

Problem is a part of human life. Every human being has ever faced it. Problems are not to be avoided but to be faced and solved. The problems always make the people aware to face them. If an individual tries to escape from the problems and avoid solving them, the problems are getting more complicated, which will raise conflict and frustration.

Sacrifice is something that can make the people face the problem. Because of sacrifice the people will battle up about something that they really want to keep. Therefore, human being must know that loyalty gives something important for somebody or something else considered being more valuable or importance. People know that they have something important that they want to keep in their life (Saraswati, 2013)

The researcher is interested about personality character of Mari Asai in *After Dark*. Mari Asai is casual and strong character. She is also loyal and charity. She is trying to help her sister waking up from her sleep overtime. This novel tackles some issues regarding sexuality, prostitute, and family. The researcher takes analysis an individual psychological approach to know human's character.

One of the best figures of individual psychology is Alfred Adler. He called individual psychology because he believed a human to be an indivisible whole, an individual. He is also imagined the person to be connected or associated with the surrounding world (Orgler, 1976).

Individual psychology is an optimistic view of people while resting heavily on the notion of social interest, that is, a feeling of oneness with all human kind (Hoffman, 1994).

Here, the writer wants to discuss about sacrifice of a girl named Mari Asai on the *After Dark* Novel directed by Haruki Murakami. According to [www.murakamibooks.co.uk](http://www.murakamibooks.co.uk) Murakami was born in Kyoto in 1949, he spent his youth in Shukugawa (Nishinomiya), Ashiya and Kobe. His father was the son of a Buddhist priest, and his mother the daughter of an Osaka merchant. Both taught Japanese literature.

Since childhood, Murakami has been heavily influenced by Western culture, particularly Western music and literature. He grew up reading a wide range of works by American writers, such as Kurt Vonnegut, Richard Brautigan and Jack Kerouac. These Western influences distinguish Murakami from other Japanese writers (Murakami, 2004).

Murakami studied drama at Waseda University in Tokyo, where he met his wife, Yoko. His first job was at a record store, much like Toru Watanabe, the narrator of *Norwegian Wood*. Shortly before finishing his studies, Murakami opened a coffeehouse and jazz bar, the Peter Cat, in Kokubunji, Tokyo, which he ran with his wife from 1974 to 1981—again, not unlike the protagonist in his later novel *South of the Border, West of the Sun*.

Many of his novels have themes and titles that invoke classical music, such as the three books making up *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle: The Thieving Magpie* (after Rossini's opera), *Bird as Prophet* (after a piano piece by Robert Schumann usually known in English as *The Prophet Bird*), and *The Bird-Catcher* (a character in Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute*). Some of his novels take their titles from songs: *Dance, Dance, Dance* (after The Dells' 1957 B-side song, although it is often thought it was titled after the Beach Boys' 1964 tune), *Norwegian Wood* (after The Beatles' song) and *South of the Border, West of the Sun* (after the song "South of the Border").

Murakami is a serious marathon runner and triathlon enthusiast, though he did not start running until he was 33 years old. On June 23, 1996, he completed his first ultramarathon, a 100-kilometer race around Lake Saroma in Hokkaido, Japan. He discusses his relationship with running in his 2008 memoir

*What I Talk About When I Talk About Running.* (see <http://www.harukimurakami.com>).

*After Dark* Novel appeared in 2004 and released in May 2007. *After Dark* is set in a single night; just beginning before midnight and ending with the sun rising again. Start on a restaurant that open 24 hours. A college-age girl alone at a table, reading a book with unfashionably dressed and has a big bag with her. Then a college guy comes in, carrying an instrument case, recognizes her, and joins with her (Murakami, 2004).

The girl is the main character named Mari Asai, and the guy is Takahashi. Takahashi had known Mari's older sister Eri Asai in high school. They had gone out on a double date once. They have a first conversation in the Denny's, and then he heads off to his all-night band practice. She thinks she is finally going to be left alone for the night when an older woman with crew-cut bleached hair and the body of a pro wrestler comes into the restaurant and asks for her help. Mari speaks Chinese, and Takahashi knew this, and this woman, Kaoru, is a friend of Takahashi's who need someone who speaks Chinese. Kaoru is an ex-pro wrestler, who now runs a love hotel, and a Chinese prostitute is bleeding in one of her rooms, and she needs an interpreter. Mari comes along and meets the girl, who is her own age and probably here illegally, her body is bloody and stole all her clothes and belongings before running out. With Mari's help they manage to contact the girl's pimp, who comes and picks her up. Kaoru stands up to the guy and forces him to pay her hotel bill (Murakami, 2004).

Mari and Kaoru then have a nice conversation about how Kaoru ended up running the love hotel, about how she knows Takahashi and work there part time, cleaning and stuff. Kaoru takes Mari to a bar and Mari opens up about how she is estranged from her sister. Kaoru takes her to another family restaurant, a Skylark, where she knows the manager and gets him to let her stay all night if she wants (Murakami, 2004).

Kaoru then looks at the security camera footage to find the guy who beat up the prostitute, prints out the image, and gives it to the Chinese pimp, hoping

he'll cut the guy's ear off. At this point, the camera cut to the guy himself, one Shirakawa, who works late nights at a nearby company. He is a guy working long hours of unpaid overtime, has a wife he never sees, and does not seem the violent type. During a break in band practice Takahashi drops by to thank Mari for helping out, and after he finishes practice they get together for a walk in the few hours. Over the course of their extended conversation she learns that he is giving up the band to get serious about his studies. And he learns that her sister, Eri, is in a sleep every time. A couple of months ago she went to bed and has not woken up since. At least, nobody in the family has seen her awake. They leave meals for her and they disappear, though, and she seems to use the bathroom. But nobody can wake her. Takahashi says that he had one odd conversation with her a few months before, when she seemed to confess a whole lot of anxieties to him, including that she wished she could be closer to Mari. And she was popping pills the whole time. Mari agrees that Eri was troubled, but she did not know how troubled or why (Murakami, 2004).

There is a TV in her room, unplugged, but sometimes it is on anyway. At first we see a faceless, masked man sitting in an empty room staring at something. Then we realize he is staring at Eri asleep. Then we see that Eri's no longer in her bed in her room, but in an identical bed in a room on the TV. Sometimes we, our point of view, is in the room in the TV. And once we have met Shirakawa we realize that the room on the TV where Eri is asleep is his deserted late-night office (Murakami, 2004).

Eri's sleeping as an extreme reaction to some trauma, and the TV is like our window into her subconscious. There she is haunted by a man who she does not know or recognize, but who is always watching her. And this guy is, I suspect, Shirakawa, who must have raped or abused her somehow, and who therefore is holding her prisoner, symbolically, until she can overcome the trauma (Murakami, 2004).

At the end, Takahashi asks Mari out on a proper date. She tells him she is leaving soon to study abroad in China, but he persists. It is clear now that he is

interested in her, not Eri, and she begins to trust him. She gives him her address in China and he promises to write. Then she goes home and crawls in bed with Eri, begging her to wake up. She goes to sleep. It's dawn. And Eri's face starts to twitch as if she is waking up.

There are some reasons why the writer is interested in analyzing this novel. Firstly, *After Dark* is a depiction of the realities of life with all kinds of problems. The problem is between Mari Asai and his older sister.

Secondly, the story of *After Dark* novel is interesting because the story tells in short time, a single night. Just beginning before midnight and ending with the sun rising again.

The third is about the character of *After Dark* novel. The main character in the novel has a great soul and strong character. The main character has responsibility when she is doing her activity. The novel has a love story in short time and makes the audiences interested.

The last aspect of this novel is a humanistic problem in real life. The problems are between two sisters and sacrifice.

Finding this phenomenon above, the writer would like to make an analyzing those data and write them down as a research paper entitled: **“MARI'S SACRIFICE REFLECTED IN HARUKI MURAKAMI'S AFTER DARK (2004): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.”**

## **B. Literature Review**

*After Dark* novel is an unique novel to read and also to be research object. It is shown with the previous studied by Masayu Oda, and Tutut Dwi Desiningtyas that created before this research. Both were using the same book, but with different perspective.

The first research is written by MasayuOda in 2011 with tittle “村上春樹「アフターダーク」の空間的読解:闇」と出会う場所としての深夜の街”or in English it means “Spatial Analysis of Murakami Haruki's "*After dark*”:

Midnight Town as A Place Where We Encounter The Darkness", which described the midnight life in the town.

The second research is created by Tutut Dwi Desiningtyas in 2013. Here, she focused on the reaction and opinion of Mari and Takahashi (the characters of the novel) about the modernism paradigmatic in Japan.

Based on the review above, the previous studies are different with the research created by the writer. The first and second research was using sociological approach. Writer here is trying to conduct the study on Haruki Murakami's *After Dark* based on the individual psychological perspectives. In this study, the writer focus on the main character and his sister is reflected on this novel. The similarity between this study and previous studies is the use of *After Dark* novel (2004) as data source.

### **C. Problem Statement**

The problem statement of this research is "How is sacrifice reflected in Haruki Murakami's *After Dark* novel (2004)?"

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The writer will focus on analyzing the novel underlying the recognition of courage in Mari Asai as the major character in the novel based on Individual Psychological Approach.

### **E. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze Haruki Murakami's *After Dark* novel based on structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the major character of the novel based on individual psychological approach.

### **F. Benefit of the Study**

The benefits expected from the study are as follows:

### 1. Theoretical Benefit

- a. To give some information which can be used by the other researchers who are interested in analyzing this literary work.
- b. The study gives contribution to the larger body of knowledge particularly literary study on Haruki Murakami, *After Dark* Novel.

### 2. Practical Benefit

This study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or other Universities who have interest in literary study on the novel from individual psychological approach.

## G. Research Method

In this research, the writer analyzes Haruki Murakami's *After Dark* novel (2004). There are five elements that should be taken into account in this research, they are:

### 1. Type of Research

In writing this study, the writer employs the descriptive qualitative research. Moleong (1983:3) affirms that qualitative research is research which result in the descriptive data in the form observed people or behaviors. Then, the steps of conducting this qualitative study are (1) determining the object of the study ((2) determining the source of the data (3) determining the method of data collection, and (4) determining the technique of data analysis.

### 2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *After Dark* novel by Haruki Murakami which is published in 2004. It is analyzed by using individual psychological approach.

### 3. Type of Data and Data Source

There are two types of data namely primary data and secondary data that are needed to do this research.

a. Primary Data

The primary data are the main data obtained from all the words, dialogues, phrases and sentences in the novel. The primary data sources of the study are *After Dark* novel by Haruki Murakami.

b. Secondary Data

Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism, and some articles related to the novel. The secondary data of the study are taken from any information related to the novel.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

In conducting the study, the writer uses the techniques in collecting the data as follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly
- b. Taking notes of important part in both primary and secondary data
- c. Underlying the important word, phrases and sentences which are related to the study
- d. Arranging the data into several part based on its classification
- e. Selecting the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which does not support the topic of the study
- f. Drawing the conclusion of the analysis that has already done in the former chapter and formulating is pedagogical suggestion.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis content. The steps of technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows:

1. Analyzing the structural elements of the novel. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the novel
2. Trying to decide the individual psychological analysis of the literary work. Focus will be paid on the meaning of sacrifice
3. Making discussing of the finding
4. Making conclusion



## **H. Paper Organization**

The organization of this study is explained in order the reader can understand the content of the paper easier. This study is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which contains background of the study, literary review, problem statements, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, the benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory; it describes the notion of individual psychological approach, notion of sacrifice, structural elements of the novel and theoretical application. Chapter III is Structural analysis: Characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme. Chapter IV is about individual psychological analysis of After Dark novel. Chapter V is divided into three parts namely conclusion, pedagogical implication and suggestion.